GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3309
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2001
HELP PROVIDED BY AIRLINES TO EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS
THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the role played by the airlines in providing help to the people affected by the earthquake in Gujarat;

(b) the number of details of aircraft of the airlines alongwith the details of the areas of Gujarat State where they operated flights for transporting relief material etc.;

(c) the time period during which shuttle service operated on Bhuj-Ahmedabad-Bhuj route; and

(d) the details of additional Burden/cost shouldered/borne by the airlines in transporting earthquake relief material in the Gujarat State?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): Indian Airlines operated 184 additional flights and uplifted 775 tonnes of relief material from 26th January to 14th February, 2001. Air India handled 56 flights carrying relief material at Mumbai and Delhi airports and received 376.875 tonnes of relief material from abroad from 26th January to 22nd February, 2001. In addition, 173 relief flights including 126 international flights were operated to and from Ahmedabad and Bhuj airports upto 22nd February, 2001 to carry out relief operations in the aftermath of devastating earthquake in Gujarat. Indian Airlines had issued instructions for acceptance of gratis relief material for quake victims. Air India had offered to transport relief material free of cost from various points to India. Jet Airways incurred an additional expense of around Rs.39 lacs towards their 7 additional flights for transporting earthquake relief material. Airports Authority of India have waived off all airport charges to all domestic/international flights operated exclusively for relief operation and also waived off charges of cargo/terminal handling upto 28th February, 2001.

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